

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4607

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United States Postmaster General John Potter
U.S. Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W.
Washington, DC 20260-6756

Dear Postmaster General Potter:

I appreciate your consideration of issuing a 2014 commemorative postage stamp honoring the accomplishments and 150th birthday of Maggie Lena Walker.

Born in 1864, in my hometown of Richmond, VA, Maggie Walker grew up to become the first woman to charter a bank and the first African American woman to become a bank president. In fact, her home in the Jackson Ward community of Richmond is maintained today as a National Historic Site by the National Park Service. Walker's hard work and dedication helped further the cause for both women and African Americans at the turn of the 20th Century.

Maggie Walker also exemplified a commitment to education, training in her early years to become a teacher and eventually teaching at her *alma mater*, the Lancaster School. Honoring her dedication to teaching, the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School of Richmond, Virginia continues her legacy by educating some of Virginia's most gifted students.

In 1903, Maggie Walker realized her lifelong dream by opening the St. Luke Penny Savings Bank in Richmond, Virginia where she served as the President. This bank continues today as part of the Consolidated Bank and Trust Company – making it the oldest, continuously operating minority-owned bank in our nation. The fact that this bank still stands today in Richmond, over a century later, is a steadfast reminder to so many generations of Americans of the lasting and beneficial impact one woman's dream and persistence can have on an entire community and nation.

By recognizing Maggie Walker with a commemorative postage stamp, we celebrate her valuable contribution to our country as a leader, business owner, and hero. This commemorative stamp would serve as an inspiration to all Americans who value hard work, perseverance and the entrepreneurial spirit.

In accordance with all applicable rules and regulations, I encourage you to give consideration to creating a 2014 commemorative postage stamp for Maggie Walker.

Sincerely,



Eric Cantor
Member of Congress